

DRAFT MINUTES

Virginia Peanut Board

Virginia Peanut Growers Association

April 15, 2025

TAREC-9am

VPGA Members Present: Randy Everett Wyatt Cox Matthew Drake Rich Williams Matt Lowe Henry Goodrich Breyon Pierce Matt Wilkins	VPB Members Present: Bob Rogers Andrew Darden Donna Jones Jennifer Simpson Rich Williams Wayne Barnes Others Present: Westley Drake Matthew Chappell Jacob Forehand Lily McLamb
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The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by Chairman Wayne Barnes and VPGA President Randy Everett. Attendance was recorded. The minutes of the December VPGA meeting were approved with a motion from Wyatt Cox and second from Henry Goodrich and a unanimous vote. The minutes of the March VPB meeting were approved with a motion from Rich Williams and second from Donna Jones and a unanimous vote.

Caitlin reviewed the expenses for the 2024-2025 budget as well as the current bank balances. We discussed at length the appreciations line item for PVQE that still has not been spent for the year. This was previously supposed to be \$40,000 for three years with the ability to review and reapprove each year. Year 1 has still not been spent. There was recently confusion about what that money was supposed to be used for within the PVQE budget so Dr. Chappell and Jacob Forehand explained that while it was the original thought that the money was needed to support Jacob's salary, his salary is hard funded by the state and the money is actually needed to support the soft funded salary of the PVQE technician position. Jacob also provided a breakdown of the cost and justification for the funding. The board discussed their intent to support the program and honor the commitment they had made for the 3 year funding. A motion was made by Henry and seconded by Rich for VPGA

and made by Rich Williams and seconded by Donna Jones for VPB to approve the budget review as well as 2024-2025 PVQE funding. The vote was unanimously approved.

Caitlin presented the 2025-2026 budget. The budget presented was above what is expected to be collected from the 2025 crop. The board discussed concern about that and after that discussion decided to cut out the Nascar line item proposal as well as the line items for both Adams and Lamar billboards with a motion from Henry Goodrich and second from Randy Everett. The budget was approved as amended including the second year of funding for PVQE with a motion from Henry Goodrich and a second from Rich Williams. The motion was unanimously approved.

Each of the officers for Virginia Peanut Growers Association have one year left on their officer terms. The current officers are: Randy Everett: President, Eric Bailey: Vice President, and Wesley Barnes: Treasurer. Rich Williams moved to close the nominations with a second from Henry Goodrich. The board unanimously approved these officers. For the Virginia Peanut Board, Wayne Barnes' term as Chairman will expire June 30, 2025. Andrew Darden was nominated for the Chairman position. Rich Williams made a motion to close nominations with a second from Jennifer Simpson. Bob Roger motioned to approve the nominations with a second from Rich Williams and a unanimous approval.

Caitlin gave a copy of the Virginia Peanut Board code sent by Melissa to the VPB members. We discussed that if there are ever any changes that they want to make to the board structure that has to be done through the legislature. No changes were discussed at this time but the board was just made aware of what is in the code.

The PGCMA is setting up a scholarship endowment for Dell Cotton and asked for contributions from North Carolina Peanut Growers and Virginia Peanut Growers. We discussed that the board would like to know more about the scholarship criteria and would be interested in giving around \$10,000 to the endowment. No decision or motion was made at this time.

Caitlin reviewed the terms of her maternity leave as discussed with the executive committee and clarified the terms of paying Dell as her replacement during the 6 week time period. The board decided that they would meet after the leave period and discuss payment with Dell then.

We have discussed changing our process of collecting research proposals and funding projects. Growers have been talking about repeating the summer research brainstorming meeting that we had a few years ago. We decided that we would repeat that meeting this summer in late July to early August in order to gather more ideas for research proposals. Caitlin discussed putting together a few options on modifying the research proposal

process to present to the board at that meeting so they can vote on the changes then. The goal of this is to more efficiently use our different pools of research money and to be able to get valuable research projects and results.

Caitlin reminded the board that letters of support are needed to nominate Dell for the American Peanut Council Lifetime Achievement Award to be sent by Friday, 4/18/25.

Lily McLamb with Sustainable US Peanuts gave a brief updates on enrollments in the V-C and reminded the board of the current enrollment period and gave her contact information again as a resource for anyone who might still need to sign up.

Westley Drake gave a brief update from National Peanut Board that a national peanut marketing campaign and logo is in the works and that the research meeting held in March went well.

Chairman Barnes asked for public comment. There was none.

Caitlin reminded everyone of the dates of the Squirrels baseball game, APRES conference, and State Fair and reminded them of volunteer opportunities.

Rich Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Henry Goodrich.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Joyner